

## **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.     **(Currently Amended)** Apparatus for injecting ozone into a tank of water, said apparatus comprising in combination:
  - a) a filter for filtering the water drawn from said tank;
  - b) a venturi for entraining ozone in the filtered water flowing to the tank;
  - c) a circulation pump for drawing water through said filter and returning the water to said tank through said venturi to entrain ozone in the returning water;
  - d) an ozone generator for generating the ozone;
  - e) a conduit interconnecting said ozone generator with [[and]] said venturi to convey ozone to said venturi from said ozone generator, said conduit accommodating a flow of ozone from said venturi to said ozone generator;
  - f) a suction line adapted to provide a flow of air to said ozone generator; and
  - g) a check valve disposed in said suction line to prevent an outflow of gas airflow from said ozone generator through said suction line, through said check valve.
2.     **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 wherein said venturi includes an inlet in fluid communication with said conduit.
3.     **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 including a valve for metering the

flow of air airflow into said ozone generator.

4.       **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 3 wherein said valve is upstream of said check valve.

5.       **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 1 including a filter for filtering the air flowing into said ozone generator.

6.       **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 5 wherein said filter is upstream of said check valve.

7.       **(Currently Amended)** A method for injecting ozone into a tank of water, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) filtering the water from the tank with a filter;
- b) drawing the water through the filter and discharging the water into the tank through a device for entraining the ozone;
- c) generating ozone with an ozone generator and conveying the ozone to the entraining device;
- d) accommodating a flow of ozone from the entraining device to the ozone generator;
- e) [[d]] entraining the ozone conveyed in the water flowing into the tank;
- f) [[e]] further drawing air into the ozone generator through a suction line; and

g) [[f]]] precluding outflow of air and ozone from the ozone generator through air from the suction line from the ozone generator, to restrain flow of water from the venturi to the ozone generator.

8. The method as set forth in Claim 7 including the step of controlling the rate of flow of air into the ozone generator.

9. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 7 including the step of filtering the flow of air to the ozone generator.

10. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 8 including the step of filtering the flow of air to the ozone generator.

11. **(Currently Amended)** A method for preventing a flow of water from a tank to an ozone generator having a suction line for inflow of air and adapted to provide ozone for entrainment in water flowing into the tank, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) conveying ozone through a conduit from the ozone generator to a venturi;
- b) accommodating a flow of ozone through the conduit from the venturi to the ozone generator;
- c) [[b]]] entraining ozone from the conduit in the water flowing through the venturi to the tank; and
- d) [[c]]] preventing a reverse flow of air and ozone from the ozone generator

through the suction line with a check valve disposed in the suction line.

12. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 11 including the step of controlling the rate of air flow into the ozone generator.

13. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 11 including the step of filtering the air flow to the ozone generator.

14. **(Original)** The method as set forth in Claim 12 including the step of filtering the air flow to the ozone generator.

15. **(Currently Amended)** Apparatus for preventing a flow of water from a tank to an ozone generator adapted to provide ozone for entrainment in water flowing into the tank, said apparatus comprising in combination:

- a) said ozone generator;
- b) a device for entraining the ozone from said ozone generator in the water flowing into the tank;
- c) a conduit for conveying ozone from said ozone generator to said device, said conduit accommodating a flow of ozone from said venturi to said ozone generator;
- d) a suction line for providing air to said ozone generator; and
- e) a check valve disposed in said suction line for establishing a pressurized environment in said conduit to prevent a flow of water therein to said ozone generator.

16.     **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 including a valve for regulating the rate of flow of air into said suction line.

17.     **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 including a filter for filtering the air flowing into said suction line.

18.     **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 16 including a filter for filtering the air flowing into said suction line.

19.     **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 15 wherein said device is a venturi.

20.     **(Original)** An apparatus as set forth in Claim 19 wherein said conduit includes a loop disposed above the level of the water in the tank.